

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2955
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2005
BIO DIESEL FROM JATROPHA
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is aware that due to increased price in diesel consecutively, farmers in West Bengal have now approached WEBREDA Authority for bio-diesel pumps;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether on experimental basis it has been observed that fuel can be had out of the Jatropha seeds; and
- (d) If so, the percentage of bio-diesel from Jatropha seeds which can be mixed with diesel to operate irrigation pumps?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (Smt. SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) & (b) Some farmers from Burdwan and Bankura districts of West Bengal approached WBREDA to convert their diesel engines into a dual-fuel engine based on diesel and bio-gas. Accordingly, 54 such proposals have been sanctioned by WBREDA and the farmers are now running their diesel engines in the dual-fuel mode of diesel and bio-gas.

(c) & (d) WBREDA has set up an oil extraction machine on an experimental basis at Energy Park, Kolkata to extract oil from Jatropha seeds. Jatropha plantation has also been taken up by WBREDA on an experimental basis. As an experiment, WBREDA is also running a 3 KW diesel generator with 20% blending of Jatropha oil. At present it is expected that diesel pumps can be run with diesel blended with 20% to 25% Jatropha oil, which needs further testing and validation by the engine manufactures.